Message Text

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AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS TOKYO 07583

AMEMBASSY ROME

PASS CEA AND FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD

USEEC

USOECD ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ECRP, JA

SUBJECT: CERP 0585 - INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION IN MARCH -

PRELIMINARY

REF: TOKYO 5138

1. SUMMARY: JAPAN'S INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS, S.A., BOTH CONTINUED TO RISE STRONGLY IN MARCH. DURING JAN-MARCH QUARTER, PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS ROSE 2.7 PCT AND 3.1 PCT, RESPECTIVELY. INVENTORY TO SHIPMENTS RATIO DECLINED RAPIDLY DURING THE FIRST QUARTER. END SUMMARY. UNCLASSIFIED

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2. ACCORDING TO PRELIMINARY DATA RELEASED APRIL 27 BY THE MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY (MITI), JAPAN'S INDEX OF MINING AND MANUFACTURING PRODUCTION, S.A. ROSE 1.6 PCT OVER THE PRIOR MONTH, RECORDING THE FIFTH STRAIGHT MONTH OF STRONG ADVANCE. EXCLUDING SHIPS, THE MARCH PRODUCTION INCREASE WAS A SLIGHTLY LARGER 1.8 PCT.

IN MARCH PRODUCTION OF ELECTRIC AND TRANSPORTATION MACHINERY AND CHEMICALS INCREASED RAPIDLY WHILE OUTPUT OF PRECISION MACHINERY AND PETROLEUM AND COAL PRODUCTS DECLINED.

- 3. PRODUCERS' SHIPMENTS OF FINISHED GOODS IN MINING AND MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, S.A., INCREASED 1.9 PCT IN MARCH, ALSO RECORDING THE FIFTH STRAIGHT MONTH OF ADVANCE. EXCLUDING SHIP DELIVERIES, PRODUCERS' SHIPMENTS RECORDED A SLIGHTLY LARGER INCREASE OF 2.0 PCT IN MARCH.
- 4. INDEX OF PRODUCERS' INVENTORIES OF FINISHED GOODS IN MINING AND MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, S.A., DECLINED IN MARCH BY 2.0 PCT. RATIO OF PRODUCERS' INVENTORIES OF FINISHED GOODS TO SHIPMENTS DECLINED IN MARCH FOR THE FIFTH CONSECUTIVE MONTH, DOWN 2.6 PCT FROM THE FEB LEVEL, WITH RATE OF DECLINE ACCELERATING RECENTLY.
- 5. FOLLOWING ARE PRELIMINARY MITI DATA ON MARCH INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION INDICES, S.A. 1975 EOUALS 100:
- FEB MARCH PERCENT (REVISED) (PRELIM) INCREASE

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION:

ALL INDUSTRIES 119.2 121.2 1.7 UNCLASSIFIED

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PUBLIC UTILITIES 118.2 118.6 0.3 MINING AND MANUFACTURING 119.4 121.3 MINING 106.7 106.6 -0.1 MANUFACTURING 119.4 121.5 1.8 MINING AND MANUFACTURING EXCLUDING SHIPS 122.2 124.4 1.8

PRODUCERS' SHIPMENTS:

ALL INDUSTRIES 118.5 120.7 1.9 MINING AND MANUFACTURING 118.6 120.9 MANUFACTURING 118.7 120.9 1.9 MINING AND MANUFACTURING

EXCLUDING SHIPS 119.7 122.1 2.0

PRODUCERS' INVENTORIES OF

FINISHED GOODS:

MINING AND MANUFACTURING 105.3 103.2

MINING 95.7 109.4 14.3 MANUFACTURING 105.2 103.2 -1.9

RATIO OF INVENTORY TO

SHIPMENTS 87.9 85.6 -2.6

6. FOLLOWING TABLE SHOWS QUARTERLY PCT CHANGES IN PRODUCTION, SHIPMENTS, INVENTORIES, AND INVENTORY TO SHIPMENT RATIO, S.A.

- PRODUCTION SHIPMENTS INVENTORIES SHIP RATIO

1977:APR-JUNE -0'1 -1.0 2.2 4.0
- JUL-SEP -0.2 0 0.7 -0.5
- OCT-DEC 1.5 1.7 -0.6 -1.8
1978:JAN-MAR 2.7 3.1 -0.2 -2.6
SHERMAN

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